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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/696,000
Filing Date	October 26, 2000
First Named Inventor	Keiichiro ISHIHARA
Group Art Unit	2872
Examiner Name	James Phan
Attorney Docket Number	03500.014893 (35.C14893)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. ☒ Previously submitted

- i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on April 2, 2003
 ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Enclosed

- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
 ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 iv. ☒ Other Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) w/appropriate fee; and Request for Consideration of Previously-Filed Information Disclosure Statement

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
 b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) | 05/02/2003 AWDNDAF1 00000146 09696000
 ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) | 01 FC:1801 750.00 OP
 iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Checks in the amount of \$ 750.00 for the filing fee and \$ 300.00 for the extension fee are enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Colin A. Webb	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	44,396
Signature		Date	April 30, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)		Date	
Signature		Date	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.